

West Virginia Watercolor Society

October 2022 – Autumn News

A Word from WVWS President Christine Rhodes:



Fall is in the air and opportunities abound in the West Virginia Watercolor Society. The annual All-Member Exhibition will be at the Arts Center in Elkins from December 10 through January 18.

Each artist may enter up to three pieces this year, so please take full advantage and help us fill the walls in this big, beautiful gallery.

The prospectus is available on our website. And remember, if shipping is a problem, we have helpers available who can transport your work for you.

We want to extend our congratulations to the following members who have earned status changes:

- ***Pamela Lake*** of Hacker Valley has earned Juried Status.
- ***Karen Catlett*** of Glen Dale has earned Signature Status.
- ***Becky Williams*** of Buckhannon has earned Signature Status.

We look forward to seeing more of their excellent work in upcoming exhibits.

Thanks to those of you who completed our recent survey (the online survey closed on Sept. 17). We had a good response, and we will be working to implement some of the excellent ideas that resulted. We are excited to grow and change with the times.

Lastly, there are still vacant positions on our executive Board. As members of the Society, we all benefit from the work done by a handful of capable people who give so generously of their time and energy to bring us educational and exhibition opportunities. The best way to show your appreciation is to pitch in and help make it all possible. The fact is that we **MUST** have officers to have a business license. So don't wait for us to call you personally – call the nominating committee and volunteer. You'll be glad you did (see more about the openings on the next page of this newsletter).

West Virginia Watercolor Society

October 2022 – Autumn News

WVWS News Items

Upcoming All-Member Meeting

The 2022 annual meeting will be at **12 noon on Saturday, Dec. 10, in Elkins**, prior to the opening reception for the All-Member show.

WVWS Leadership Openings

Each year at our annual meeting, we elect our slate of officers and committee chairs for the coming year. As current President of the Society, I'm writing to you today to let you know that we need nominations for the following positions:

- **Vice President** - The VP performs the duties of the President in the event of the President's absence or inability to serve. This office has a two-year term.
- **Recording Secretary** - records minutes of all meetings and is responsible for the safekeeping of all permanent records of the Society. This office has a two-year term.
- **Director, Region I** - Includes the counties of Nicholas, Fayette, Greenbrier, Mingo, Logan, Boone, Raleigh, Wyoming, McDowell, Mercer, Summers, Monroe
- **Director, Region II** - includes the counties of Clay, Braxton, Mason, Putnam, Kanawha, Cabell, Wayne, Lincoln
- **Director, Region III** - Includes the counties of Tucker, Randolph, Webster, Pocahontas, Jefferson, Berkeley, Morgan, Hampshire, Mineral, Grant, Hardy, Pendleton
- **Director, Region V** - Includes the counties of Hancock, Brooke, Ohio, Marshall, Wetzel, Tyler, Pleasants, Wood, Ritchie, Doddridge, Gilmer, Calhoun, Wirt, Jackson, Roane
- **Director, Region-at-Large**

**Directors serve a role of governance in the Society. They do not directly manage our operations, but they stay informed about our activities and ensure that those activities serve our mission, which is mainly to promote and ensure the high standards of watercolor painting in the state of West Virginia. They may choose to keep in touch with the members of their region and encourage participation, report on achievements, etc. Directors serve a three-year term.*

A complete description of the duties and responsibilities of each of these positions can be found in our directory.

If you would like to volunteer for any of the openings listed above or if you know someone you'd like to nominate, please contact **Nancy Maunz** (nbmaunz@aol.com) or **Jerre Watkins** (jjwatck@aol.com) of the Nominating Committee or respond directly to me, **Christine Rhodes** (christinerhodes56@msn.com). We look forward to hearing from you.

West Virginia Watercolor Society

October 2022 – Autumn News

All-Member Exhibition 2022 Reminder – NOV. 10 ENTRY DEADLINE

The Arts Center in Elkins is hosting the WVWS All-Member Exhibition this winter, Dec. 10, 2022, to Jan. 18, 2023. The gallery is located at 2 Park St. in Elkins, in what formerly had been a Catholic church, and the Great Hall is the main exhibition space in the facility. Judge for the exhibition will be Christine Rhodes, NWS.

All-Member 2022 Exhibition Calendar

- **Deadline to Enter:** Nov. 10, 2022 – Entry form, payment and image(s) must be received by this date.
- **Shipped Work Deadline:** Nov. 25, 2022 – Work should be shipped to Linda Elmer's home, 46 Dogwood Lane, Fairmont, WV 26554.
- **Deliver to Gallery in Elkins:** Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon
- **Exhibition Dates:** Dec. 10, 2022, to Jan. 18, 2023
- **Opening Reception and Awards:** Saturday, Dec. 10, from 2-4 p.m.
- **Gallery Hours:** 10 to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday (except holidays)
- **Pickup from Gallery in Elkins:** Thursday, Jan. 19, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

All-Member 2022 Prospectus and Entry Forms can be found on the WVWS website at this link: http://www.wvwatercolorsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/2022All-MembersProsectus_EntryForm.pdf

Exhibit Calendar Sneak Peak - Aqueous 2023

The National Juried Exhibition for WVWS – Aqueous 2023 – will be held in Princeton at the Chuck Mathena Center. Show dates will be May 15 to June 29, 2023. Nancy Stark, AWS, NWS, will be serving as show juror. Entry deadline for Aqueous 2023 will be March 31, 2023.

The prospectus and entry forms for Aqueous 2023 will be posted on the WVWS website in November after entries for the fast-approaching All-Member Exhibition close (we wanted to avoid the chance of mixing up the entry forms by having them both posted at the same time).

Message from Jane C. Michael, corresponding secretary:

Lately, we have sent several notes of condolence to long-time members, and as we bid them farewell, we are reminded of the new artists who join us in our love of painting.

In that note, we welcome our newest member, **Sandy Shaw**, of Beaver. We look forward to extending our friendship and support to her, and to welcoming her to all the advantages of membership in WVWS. If you know anyone who loves to paint and would benefit from membership, be sure to invite them to grow with us.

Details for membership in WVWS may be found at www.wvwatercolorsociety.org/membership. We especially encourage college students who may have a love, a talent, or an interest in the magic of watercolors.

West Virginia Watercolor Society

October 2022 – Autumn News

Also, don't forget that Jeannine Romano, WVWS membership chairwoman, will be sending out dues notices for WVWS in November.... Once you receive the dues notice, go ahead and return it quickly to avoid forgetting about it around the holidays. The WVWS membership year runs from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.

Opportunities around the state

Mineral Matters – Call for Entry – deadline Oct. 10, 2022

Deposits of mineral resources have long perpetuated associations of “richness” and “natural wealth” with the lands of West Virginia. While such substances are not all considered minerals, they are all mineral resources. Often extracted for their “economic interest” and “usefulness to society,” these natural materials have been transformed and commodified by the forces of industrialization. Yet the mineral resources of the Mountain State still hold value, qualities, stories, and associations all their own.

Mineral Matters, an exhibit at the [Watts Museum](#) (part of the Statler College of Engineering & Mineral Resources at West Virginia University in Morgantown) will feature artworks that highlight the mineral resources themselves—the substances from the earth in what we now call West Virginia. We are looking for artworks that interpret or feature West Virginia's mineral resources in personal, practical, ecological, ancestral, or other conceptual ways. References and commentary on mineral resource industries and their social, political, and economic impacts are welcome, as long as the overall narrative or concept of the work maintains strong connections and attention to the actual natural resource. Artworks may feature any mineral resources found in West Virginia, whether mined for profit or not. All mediums considered.

- Entry Fee: Free
- Entry Deadline: October 10, 2022
- Artists may submit up to three artworks for consideration (Both 2D and 3D artworks considered)
- Notification of acceptance on or before October 13, 2022
- Entry Form Link: <https://forms.gle/fNLdp3JJqfwJzzgLA>
- If unable to complete the form, email: wattsmuseum@mail.wvu.edu

Morgantown Art Association workshops

Morgantown Art Association always has a wide range of watermedia-related workshops scheduled. Their upcoming October workshop with Robin Poteet has a waitlist since it's already booked, but they also have four watercolor workshops scheduled for 2023, featuring Graham Berry, Karen Knutson, Lynn Ferris, and Janet Nunn. They also have Janet Rogers scheduled for a session in 2024. To keep up with MAA's activities and workshops, visit their website at <https://www.morgantownartassociation.com>

Allied Artists – Steve Rogers workshop

Allied Artists of West Virginia is sponsoring a [Steve Rogers](#) watercolor workshop Nov. 1-4 (Monday - Friday) in Charleston at St. Matthews Episcopal Church. Roger's paintings have won hundreds of

West Virginia Watercolor Society

October 2022 – Autumn News

awards in juried competitions including the National Watercolor Society, Florida Watercolor Society Best of Show, and four awards with the American Watercolor Society. He has taught workshops throughout the U.S. and Europe and has works featured in numerous magazines and books as well as his best-selling DVD's: 7 Secrets of Painting Reflections in Watercolor and The Secrets of Painting Light and Shadow in Watercolor. Visit the AAWV website at <https://www.alliedartistswv.org> for more information, including the cost, application form, and materials list.

WVWS Member News

- Slight Indulgence Cafe in Morgantown is currently featuring work by WVWS member **Jane Cardi** through October. For November-December WVWS members **Ken Waddell** and **Jane Michael** will have a joint exhibit.
- Clarksburg is in the planning stages of opening a gallery at 331 Main Street. Several WVWS members have participated in the 1ST Friday events in the space during this past year. **Linda Turner, Judy Reed, Katy Crim, Nancy Maunz,** and **Jeannine Romano** are some of the recent exhibitors. The plan is to have local artists exhibit and hold community classes at the Weaver Gallery, in addition to the 1ST Friday Events. **Jeannine Romano** will share more information about the exhibit and teaching space as it develops.
- Seven members of WVWS will be exhibiting their artwork at the Market Street Lobby of WesBanco in Parkersburg for the month of October. The exhibit may be viewed during regular business hours. Participating artists are **Linda Elmer, Deanna Gillum, Jane C. Michael, Judy Reed, Martha Reynolds, Christine Rhodes,** and **Jeannine Romano.**
- **Pam Lake** has two watercolors on display in the David Dickirson Gallery at Tamarack in the current show (ending Oct. 5), called "Head Over Hills." Lake will also have five watercolors in Tamarack's next exhibit, "Gogh with the Flow," which will be on display Oct. 15 to Nov. 23. *Editor's Note:* Scanning through the list of other featured artists on the Tamarack website, I noticed WVWS members **Jane Cardi, Debbie Kalt Sisson,** and **Carol Hilleary** were also part of "Head Over Hills."
- Pittsburgh Watercolor Society's Aqueous Open International 2022 juried exhibition, on display now through Oct. 29 at the Stifel Fine Arts Center in Wheeling, includes works by WVWS members **Karen Catlett** ("Homeward Bound" and "Off the Beaten Path,"), **Janet Hart** ("Kitchen Chicken"), **Greg Kullman** ("River of Coal"), and **Kathleen Snoderly** ("He Lived His Dreams").

My Painting Space Written by temporary newsletter editor K. Colebank

F. Dennis Clarke (Denny for those in the know...) is an extraordinarily prolific painter in Martinsburg. Denny maintains a large email list, where he sends out photos of works in progress.

West Virginia Watercolor Society

October 2022 – Autumn News



One of the images he sent out recently showed him standing at his easel, and that photo had me thinking about our “painting spaces.”

Slick magazine layouts and Pinterest showcase beautiful studios with gigantic windows, hardwood floors, Oriental rugs, etc. I’m sure most of us don’t have anything quite that finished or ornate that in which to create. Looking at Denny’s photo, I could see cinder-block walls in the background, which made me think he was working in either a basement or a garage. I’ve got a bit of a basement painting space going on, so I can relate.

I called Denny to ask about his painting space. He said he had been painting in his basement for years. It took him a while to figure out his lighting situation, but he now has a system of hanging utility lights that are in the right places. He uses a white sheet hanging in front of his easel to screen out light from a window, which has the added benefit of reflecting light from his overhead light to where it needs to be – on his paper.

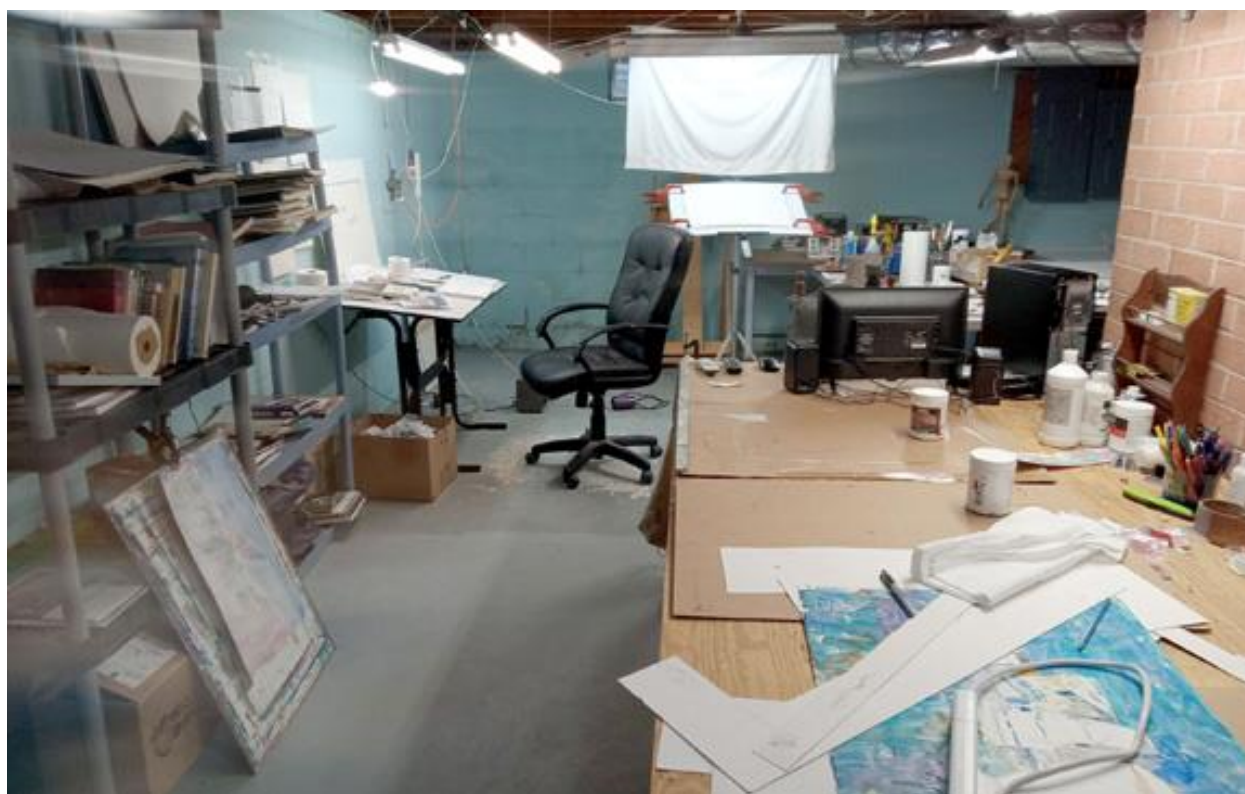


West Virginia Watercolor Society

October 2022 – Autumn News

The easel is simple, but effective, and allows him to angle his support board, which is a piece of Masonite, any way he needs it. He uses large utility clamps to hold down the edges of his paper, usually full or half-sheets, so he does not have to fuss with tape or staples. In addition to his easel, he has a folding table at his right that holds his palette, water, paints, and other supplies.

Denny also uses a drawing desk that has its own utility lights positioned above it. On the wall in front of the drawing desk he tapes references and other reminders about the elements of good design, etc., to the walls. One of his taped reminders is the late Frank Webb's "Reflections on Rejection." Webb's books and instructional materials are everywhere in the basement, which also features a large library of art resources, always at the ready on shelves.



In the rear of the space is a large work surface, made by putting a sheet of plywood on some sawhorses. Denny uses that area, which is also well lit, to hold his computer, for cutting down his paper, for using matboard scraps to assess whether a painting needs to be cropped, etc. Other signs are posted in this work area, including, "There are no rules," and "No one cares." That last sign is important, Denny says, because it reminds him to put in the work – meaning to paint – every day.

Denny's basement space shows resourcefulness and determination, and it suits what he needs. So don't let your painting space dreams and wishes be a hindrance.... Make it out of whatever you have, and make it work for you.

~ The End ~